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The Organized Farmer

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF FARMERS' UNION OF ALBERTA

9934 - 106 Street, Edmonton, Alberta. Phones: 25481 - 25965

VOLUME XIV

Edmonton, Alberta, November, 1955

NUMBER 11

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Through the courtesy of the City of Edmonton F.U.A. Convention delegates will again be given free parking privileges during the convention.

We must warn all delegates getting this privilege that they are only entitled to park in public spaces and at legal times. No one has the right to park in private parking spaces or in any place where parking is prohibited. These rules must be observed this year.

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GENERAL SCIENCES

President's Report

By the time you read this, several important things will have happened. First, we shall no doubt be established in our new F.U.A. headquarters on 106 St. As this is written on November 9th, we are preparing to move. Final preparations for the F.U.A. Jubilee Day Signup Drive on November 16th are in full swing. The office is terribly busy. It is unfortunate that our new building was not ready a month ago, as it should have been. It is very difficult to move at such a busy time. We are fortunate indeed, to have such an efficient and co-operative staff at Central Office at a time like this.

The new plan for advances to farmers against grain stored on farms has recently been announced. While this will be some help to farmers, the interest rate of 5% is unreasonably high. There is a growing resentment among farmers against the idea of paying any such rate of interest for an advance on our own goods. Many farmers are strictly opposed to taking on a new debt and by so doing making more money for the banks. Why should not our Government supply the money through our own Bank of Canada at cost? To go further, why should the Wheat Board not have access to the money at cost from the same source. It may be objected that this idea is "Social Credit" but so what. It is perhaps, the one sound part of the Social Credit theory, and would save many millions in interest now going to coupon clippers who neither toil nor spin.

Of course the Federal Government will have to take the responsibility for the plan which they put out. If farmers refuse to use it the Govt. will, of course, say that farmers don't need money. At the Saskatoon Conference in September, Farm Union representatives and the Saskatchewan Minister of Agriculture wanted to write a limit of 3% into the plan to be presented to Ottawa. In fact most of them would have preferred to present a demand for a plan without interest at all. However, other opinions prevailed, and the Brief presented asked for immediate advances without specifying any particular interest rate. I am now convinced that we should have stuck to our original idea and if the Federation of Agriculture and Wheat Pools etc. would not have agreed, we should have presented our own plan to the Govt. In this case we conceded the point in order to present a united front for immediate action. In the long run, the other course might well have done our farmers more good.

In spite of the interest rate, the present plan will no doubt be used to a considerable extent.

The Organized Farmer

Published monthly by Farmers' Union of Alberta at
9934 - 106 Street, Edmonton, Alberta.

Printed by Co-op Press Limited, 10042 - 109th Street,



Edmonton, Alberta.

Subscription — 50c per year to F. U. A. members;
\$1.00 to non-members.

Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office
Department, Ottawa.

Advertising Rates in Organized Farmer:

Full Page	\$60.00
Half Page	\$35.00
Quarter Page	\$18.00
Business Card	\$ 3.00
Classified Ads.	.07c per word (cuts extra)

Just how much help it will be will depend to a large degree upon the attitude of the banks. If they try to tie up the issuance of the new credit with the repayment of previous debt, it will be little or no use to the farmer.

The farm crisis is deepening. The recent drastic reduction in hog prices and the weakness of the cattle market have tilted the balance still further against the farmer. It is not merely a case of congested elevators. The basic trouble is that farm income is too low in proportion to costs. Actually in the last four years, western farmers have marketed almost half a billion bushels more wheat than in the previous four year period. And yet there is no doubt that many of our farmers are in abject poverty. Agriculture is entering a new depression period.

For more than a year past, we have pointed out to all who would listen to us, that this situation was developing. We have vainly urged farmers to prepare for the storm. We have tried to get action from various Governments to maintain Agricultural income in relation to farm costs. The crisis is now coming and the Federal Government (which is responsible for trade and financial policies) has no plan to meet it. We have urged many times that Canadian farmers be paid a Parity Price for all farm products used in Canada. Adoption of this principle as a definite policy would go far to relate farm income to Canadian production costs. Why should Canadian farmers have to sell wheat or bacon at a price based on some outside market when everything that they buy is priced according to Canadian costs?

It is time that something was done to meet the situation. But it is daily getting more evident

that the Government does not intend to do anything effective. Their policy is to stall endlessly in the hope that the problem will disappear. The Roman Emperor, Nero, is reported to have played the fiddle while Rome burned. Our Gov't. fiddles while Agriculture smolders. They are heading for an explosion.

This whole situation emphasizes the fact that Canadian farmers must get together for their own protection. In 1954 Agriculture got 5.6% of the National Income, but those in power are still not concerned about it. How much worse must it be before they will act? Evidently farmers will have to get tough to get action.

In the U.S.A. farmers for many years have been getting a far better deal than in Canada. They have accomplished this by organizing, and holding the balance of power in many key States. The farmers there, are tough and realistic and they don't care which party they vote for as long as they get results. They get results because they put farmers interests before political idealogy. It is time we did that here.

Another thing which has helped the American farmer get legislation he wanted, is the support of organized Labor. So far, our National farm organization has had no truck or trade with Labor. Perhaps a little attention to that angle here, would get results.

Canadian farmers properly organized, could hold the balance of power in Canada. To get that we need a strong and militant farm organization, pretty well across Canada. Our job here is to build our own Union to full strength in Alberta. Never wait for the other fellow to do it. The organization of the new B.C. Farmers Union will help us to achieve our aim. We have made good progress in 1955. Let us press onward to our goal in 1956.

CANADA FORTUNATE TO HAVE BIG SYNTHETIC RUBBER PLANT

In a world consuming five tons of rubber each minute, Canada is fortunate in having at Sarnia the only completely integrated synthetic rubber producing plant in the world, the Chemical Institute of Canada was told recently.

E. R. Rowzee manager of the Polymer Corporation, explained that during the war, when natural rubber supplies were curtailed and the demand for rubber goods greatly expanded, the Canadian government allocated \$50,000,000 to establish the synthetic rubber industry.

Like Private Company

In 1952 Polymer was reorganized as a private Crown Company with the Minister of Trade

and Commerce being the sole shareholder, the speaker said. Through this arrangement, Rt-Hon. C. D. Howe acts as receiver of the dividends paid.

The Corporation since 1942, had reduced its debt to the government to \$38,000,000 and had accumulated assets worth \$75,000,000 Mr. Rowzee explained. "It is one of the few government companies that really pays its way". Being organized as a private corporation. Polymer pays taxes as well as as dividends to the Canadian treasury.

Mr. Rowzee explained that last year one-third of all the rubber used in the world was synthetic. About 50 percent of Canada's consumption being manufactured from petroleum.

Producing more than 20 different types of rubber for export to all parts of the world, the Sarnia plant covers 130 acres, the members of the CIC were told.

Mr. Rowzee showed a short color film of the Polymer plant at Sarnia. Originally designed for foreign consumers the documentation pictured the immensity of the factory.

The speaker was introduced by Glen Gay and thanked by G. L. Osberg, who acted as chairman.

The meeting was held at the National Museum.

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**EATON'S
OF CANADA**

**THROUGH THE
MAIL ORDER
CATALOGUES**

Open Forum

Letters for publication in the Open Forum must be brief. Pen names may be used if desired, but the name of the sender must accompany the letter. The Editor reserves the right to condense any letter to conform to space limitations. The F.U.A. does not endorse or accept any responsibility for opinions expressed under this heading.

The Editor,

I submit the following as my solution to the present Agricultural Marketing problem. Bearing in mind that the purpose of International Trade is to exchange the surplus products of our country for the products of other countries so as to provide our own people with a higher or more diversified standard of living; and without any intention to subscribe to the fallacy of a favourable balance of trade, which simply means exporting more wealth than we import.

Everybody recognizes that the prosperity of agriculture is essential to the welfare of the Canadian economy and also that is essential to the prosperity of Canadian farmers that they be provided with adequate markets.

In order to provide against the threat of inadequate markets which is caused by the failure of our present financial policy to provide a satisfactory medium for the exchange of goods with overseas countries, the following steps are recommended:

1. Provide for a central Export-Import Board to supervise and co-ordinate the work of assembling and marketing Agricultural products.

The setting up of such a Board will require the co-operation of the Federal and Provincial governments so that there will be no future conflict between Provincial and Federal authority in the matter of marketing.

2. Provincial Boards should be set up to work in harmony and co-operation with the Central Board.

A permanent policy shall be established whereby:

A Central Board shall be provided with the necessary finance, at cost of issue, to handle all farm products offered at not less than agreed floor prices.

3. That such Central Board be empowered to accept imports in exchange for exports where such imports have been demonstrated by previous demand to be in accordance with the wishes of the Canadian people; or goods which the Central Board has reason to believe will be readily purchased by the Canadian people.

Floor Prices should be established from year to year by a board composed of representatives, taking the price level of the previous

year to be 100. Any fall in the world price of goods which are being exchanged between Canada and another country shall have the effect of reducing the floor price of the Canadian product. The Canadian floor price will be paid to Canadian farmers by the Central Board and whatever imports are received in exchange for these exports shall be priced to sell in Canada for a sufficient price to equal in total the financial advances made by the Board to the Canadian farmers.

In this way the Parity Price of farm products would be maintained in conformity with the rise or fall of those commodities which enter into the farmers' production costs.

As world prices fall so will farm prices fall in equitable relationship with industrial prices thus reducing cost of living to all consumers.

That marketing boards be given the right to require that all produce offered through ordinary market channels be delivered to the Board.

That all goods listed as regular commercial commodities and imported by the Marketing Board on a barter basis be admitted free of any restriction duties which may have the effect of raising the retail price.

In view of the fact that the proposals contained in this submission have all been endorsed at some time or other by resolutions passed at conventions of representative farmers groups, therefore I suggest that these proposals should be presented by the publicity department of the F.U.A., with the idea of mobilizing public opinion throughout the provinces of Canada in sufficient support to bring pressure to bear on both Provincial and Federal Governments to obtain definite action towards their accomplishment.

These proposals should be pushed by the grass roots farmers if they are to be brought forcibly before the Federal government. Therefore I urge every farmer delegate who believes that this offers a solution to the farmers' marketing problem, to speak and vote for it at the F.U.A. Annual Convention.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Geo. Bevington.

* * *

The Editor,

I have read of the representation made to the Canadian Cabinet by the delegation of the farmer bodies and am very disappointed at the orthodoxy, and therefore foredoomed failure, of their submission. No recommendations were made to compensate our farmers for their one billion dollar loss of income over the past four years, nor any specific proposals to cope with, not only the present surplus, but also of those

future surpluses which will inevitably develop if good weather should aid the highly productive abilities of our farmers. I will try in the short space of a letter to sketch the outline of a practical plan.

It seems to be admitted on all sides that the wheat surplus is a real problem — if not a crisis? However, bad as it is now, it will be worse next year if our farmers carry on efficiently and nature is kind. If we want the matter solved for us under the orthodox financial system then we can only wait for a war or a succession of crop failures to bring the market surplus back to normal.

If we really want a solution, and at the same time maintain plentiful production, we must tackle the problem. When I say "we", I mean the farmers, through their organizations. If they don't know how, or would rather not advocate something unorthodox, then I wonder what they are organized for.

The data for our problem contains the following important points.

1. We have a wheat surplus only because of the lack of effective demand.

2. The wheat is really needed, but those who would like to have it, do not possess an acceptable medium of exchange with which to buy it.

3. In Canada, an acceptable medium of exchange is Canadian dollars, while from overseas nations we will accept payment in goods we need, or United States dollars, or credits in Canadian dollars earned by overseas nations who sell goods to us.

4. In addition to these factors the income of the Canadian farmers has dropped by \$1,200,000 in the last four years, although they have produced in abundance.

With these four factors as data, perhaps we can evolve a method that will restore the income of Canadian farmers, bring about equitable and reciprocal trade balances between the great nations, and build up a reciprocal trade with undeveloped nations by offering to accept whatever they can produce in exchange for our wheat. If they have nothing at all to offer at present, we can let them have some wheat for nothing. "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

First we must set our own house in order and restore the purchasing power of our farmers. They have produced about a billion bushels of surplus wheat. Of this total, six hundred million bushels should be put at the disposal of the FAO and used for trading purposes without interfering with the markets served by the International Wheat Agreement. Payments should be made immediately by the issue of a Treasury Note for nine hundred million dollars, converted

into cash by the Bank of Canada, and paid to the farmers. This would help to restore a part of the income they have lost.

This issue of new money—to settle the nation's debt to the farmers—would have a double-barrelled effect. It would restore vitality to the Canadian economy and it would cause a devaluation of the Canadian dollar in terms of United States currency by about 10%. This would be mostly to Canada's advantage. It would raise the price of United States goods and thereby induce Canadians to buy more from Great Britain. This would reduce the present adverse trade balance between Canada and the U.S., and transfer more Canadian buying to Britain, thus reducing our too favorable balance with Britain and enable her to get more Canadian dollars with which to buy larger quantities of wheat through the International Wheat Agreement—from which she is presently being compelled to withdraw because of a lack of money convertible into Canadian dollars. The IWA will then probably be able to sell the balance of 400 million bushels through the usual channels.

The most radical part of this proposal is the issuing of nearly one billion dollars of new money. But we will have to learn that the only remedy for a lack of financial purchasing power, is to increase it. This we have the power to do through the Bank of Canada, and the farmers have already done their part by producing the goods to provide the necessary backing to avoid inflation. It has been done before and now is the time to do it again.

By buying less from the United States, because of the devaluation of the Canadian dollar, our large adverse trade balance with them would be considerably lessened and in time removed; and the much more sensible reciprocal trading balance would become the regular pattern.

If this action is taken, the farmers who are the best spenders in the world, would resume their buying habits and the whole internal economy of Canada would receive a healthy and permanent uplift.

If some such action as this is not taken, it means we will allow a financial dictatorship to compel a scarcity of production in order to fit us into the strait-jacket of a deliberate scarce-money policy. This means we shall allow a depression to be brought on while we have a superabundance of goods, and the next phase of course, will be poverty in the midst of plenty.

The moment has arrived for the farmers' organizations to justify their existence and insist that finance be made the servant of production instead of being its master.

Yours truly

H. E. Nichols

LETTER FROM

Alberta Livestock Co-operative Limited

Calgary, Alberta
November 3, 1955

Dear Friends:

Do you recall the newspaper reports, the panel discussions, the radio broadcasts, the meetings and the arguments that were so prevalent only a few months ago?

We're sure that you do. The only way you could have missed them would be if you were a hermit, out of touch with Western Canadian civilization.

The subject was livestock marketing and particularly 'Livestock Marketing Boards'.

Since that time the Government of Alberta has given us legislation that makes the establishment of marketing boards possible. Some people think that the legislation is ample, others think that it's not nearly good enough.

Now don't get us wrong. We're not going to get into an argument about it for either side. What we're trying to get at is, if Livestock Marketing was such an important subject just a few short months back, why the sudden silence and disinterest. It reminds us of the days when we were kids and got all excited about going fishing. We'd gather the hook, line and sinker together and gallop down to the creek. Throw the line in hard enough to make a big ripple and by the time the ripple had faded out we'd had enough of fishing.

You keep on producing and raising livestock right along. Right now we're in the middle of what we call the 'Fall Run' of cattle and you're starting to dispose of hogs in seasonally larger numbers. We think that the marketing of your livestock, and the way you do it, is almost as important as its production and that's why

we just can't understand why interest in this phase seems to have slipped back into the old groove, or should we call it a rut?

Perhaps it's because there is still a lack of knowledge and understanding about the entire broad question. It's quite likely that most livestock producers do not know how they can market their production through their own organizations and can have a say in how it's to be done.

There are many long-established co-operative livestock shipping associations throughout Alberta. Starting next month we're going to start listing who and where they are, on this page. If there is anything you want to know about them, get in touch with their managements or directors. Or drop us a line concerning anything that you might like to know about livestock marketing. Between us we should be able to come up with most of the answers.

We're great believers in Farmers' Organizations. Almost every other line of endeavor is organized to the hilt. If the farmer is going to remain a rugged individualist he just can't help but stay in the squeeze that's going to get tighter.

Where livestock is concerned, ask us your questions and we'll try to tell you our story. Do you think it's worth the trouble?

Sincerely yours

Geo. Winkelaar - General Manager

Alberta Livestock Co-operative Limited

(Advertisement)

Dear Sir:

Some communities in the Prairie Provinces are definitely interested in buying direct from the Okanagan fruit growers sales agency. Mac-Intosh apples are just about picked, Red and Old Delicious, Newtowns, Winesap, Jonathon applies are in the process of being picked now. There'll be a good supply of apples on hand and every fruit grower is interested in seeing them distributed to consumers as economically as possible.

Freight rates are for example — \$1.20 per cwt. to Camrose, \$1.31 per cwt. to Trochu with a minimum of 35,000 lbs. for such a rate. A reefer 40 ft. car (rlwy) holds about 100 packed or 1,200 orchard run, or 1500 or more handi-paks. A packed box holds about 40 to 42 lbs. of apples — tare about 7 to 8 lbs. An orchard run apple box holds 33 lbs. apples — tare 7 lbs.

Size Grade	East of Manitoba		Manitoba		Saskatchewan		Alberta & B.C.	
	88's & larger	100 to 150's	88's & larger	100 to 150's	88's & larger	100 to 150	88's & larger	100 to 150's
Extra Fancy	2.45	2.75	2.55	2.85	2.65	2.95	2.75	3.05
Fancy	2.15	2.40	2.25	2.50	2.35	2.60	2.45	2.70
Cee		1.85		1.90		1.95		2.00

Hoping to hear from more Co-ops, F.U.A. and S.F.U. locals as to their views and ideas. Every inquiry helps us fight our economic strangulation.

Alf. T. Biech
Oliver, B.C.

* * *

Editor,

This is a proposed plan for distribution of North American surpluses as sent to Secretary Benson a year ago by J. M. Pine.

That U.S.A. and Canada ask all nations what amount of wheat each could use over the amount each can pay for and then to arrange distribution fairly and ship on a credit plan.

The prices to be current prices and each country deposit payment in its own bank against North American tourist trade in such country.

In North America a plan be arranged that retired workers (not executive) who can pay their own fare to their homeland be given on arrival an equivalent to old-age pension for spending there and a ticket home within six months, such to be from the mentioned credit.

The benefits would be a disposal of our surplus, a holiday for those who have always wanted such, and a flood of diplomats with no political, labour or other subversive leanings to show other nations the true spirit of America.

If credit held out beyond the tourists, carry it to next year, extend the tourists or leave the

A handi-pak, 20 lb. type, holds 20 lbs. of apples and weighs 2 to 3 lbs. Dominion Government inspection costs about $\frac{3}{4}$ c per standard box. Packinghouse handling charges for orchard run is about \$14.00 per ton now and charges for wrapping and packing come to \$55.00 to \$60.00 per ton.

Selling charges — as claimed by one of our governors is about 4c a box. F.O.B. prices include the price of the fruit, container, packing, loading, storing, Government inspection fee, selling assembling, advertising, brokerage, and the B.C. Fruit Board levy of $1\frac{1}{2}$ c per 40 lbs. of fruit.

A fruit grower could deem himself fortunate if he averaged $4\frac{1}{2}$ c a lb. for red delicious and 4c a lb. for other apples. Here are some Oliver, F.O.B. prices on wrapped MacIntosh in standard packed boxes as of Oct. 8, 1955.

credit at no interest to anyone until conditions became reversed and we need help from them. It would not be fair to saddle others with an interest debt to help a rich America.

There is little doubt that if this were carried out, inside ten years we'd be extending the credit from otherwise ammunition money to further the goodwill visitations.

J. M. PINE.

* * *

Friends in the Farm Movement:

Never before in history has it been more important for the farmers to study the problems of Agriculture. Our F.U.A. and F.W.U.A. Locals offer the means through which many problems may be discussed and solved. It is very important that a full quota of delegates be sent from every local, to the Annual Convention in Edmonton, December 5th to 9th.

October 24th is the United Nations 10th birthday. As members of the F.U.A. we are in turn members of the Federation of Agriculture who lend their efforts to sponsor Food and Agriculture Organization which operates under the United Nations Charter.

By our affiliation in the Federation of Agriculture, each of us is helping to shape these policies which we hope will eventually bring bread and new hope to these suffering nations.

If you are asked this November for member-

ship in the Farmers' Union, please, think of it as something much larger than work done just in our own community, although this is very important too. In closing let me quote from the Credo of a Canadian.

"I believe that with sound work, the spirit of a team, and an awareness of ourselves, we can look forward to achievements beyond our imagining."

Sincerely,

Mrs. F. H. House,
F.W.U.A. Director, Dist. 12
Arrowwood, Alberta.

STATEMENT BY MR. HALMRAST

Agricultural Minister Halmrast commenting upon the announcement of the Honourable C. D. Howe on arrangements for banks to make cash loans to farmers on farm-stored grain said this policy would enable some farmers to obtain \$1500.00 more than they could otherwise secure.

Mr. Halmrast said he did not think these arrangements would bring too much relief to farmers who are hard pressed for money at this time. He pointed out that many farmers have already borrowed about all the funds they could obtain and that some were disposing of a portion of their grain at sacrifice prices in order to obtain funds to pay their bills.

The Minister stated that he was sorry the Federal Government had not seen fit to make some contribution itself to the emergency facing the farmers of Western Canada. He felt that the Federal Government might have absorbed a portion of the interest charges and pointed out that in actual fact the Government of Canada would make no financial contribution to farmers unable to market their wheat unless the Federal Treasury were called upon to repay loans made by the banks which become uncollectible. Mr. Halmrast observed that the reluctance of farmers to borrow was indicated in 1951 when out of a fund of \$20,000,000 guaranteed to banks only \$625,000.00 was actually loaned.

Mr. Halmrast pointed out that the need for realizing cash from this year's wheat crop is generally not as acute in Alberta as it may be in other Provinces. Alberta farmers are in the fortunate position of receiving a higher proportion of their total cash income from the sale of live stock products than are the farmers in some other Provinces. For example in 1950 Saskatchewan farmers received about 273 million dollars from the sale of crops and 134 million dollars from the sale of live stock products, whereas Alberta farmers received about 166

million dollars from the sale of crops and 197 million dollars from the sale of live stock. During 1954 Alberta farmers had receipts of about 174 million dollars from crops and about 211 million dollars from the sale of live stock products. During the current year, from January to June, Alberta farmers received about 71 million dollars from the sale of crops and about 101 million dollars from live stock sales. The live stock industry provides an alternative source of income for many Alberta farmers and is an important cushion for the whole agricultural industry when the sale of grain is retarded.

Mr. Halmrast stated that the present policy would not sell wheat and urged that the Canadian Wheat Board redouble its efforts to dispose of the stocks available. He felt that an aggressive sales campaign was necessary and suggested that the possibility of disposing of grain to non-dollar countries or even on a barter basis should not be overlooked.

NEW ONTARIO HOG MARKETING POLICY

A new policy being put into effect by the Ontario Hog Producers' Marketing Board provides that hogs will go to assembly points instead of direct to plants. Therefore hogs will not be delivered at plants until prices and quantities have been negotiated by the Board's marketing agency.

Assembly points are in the beginning being established at Windsor, London, Stratford, Kitchener, Barrie and Peterborough, as well as the Ontario Stockyards in Toronto.

Chas. McInnis, President of the Board, has explained that "under the new direction program, hogs picked up at the farm by a trucker will be taken to the nearest assembly yard. There, the trucker will be told to deliver them to the plant to which they have been sold—or possibly the animals may be unloaded. Facilities for proper feeding and watering are available at these yards, as well as facilities for washing and disinfecting the trucks. Scales are also provided to enable the weighing of live hogs. From these records, the marketing agency can check on the dressing percentages of hogs and gather very valuable data which can be used to the benefit of the producer."

Mr. McInnis said it was not possible to bargain effectively on a product which is already delivered to a plant and slaughtered. He also said that the new plan will "eliminate special payments to truckers by the packers". Such payments have been made by packers to ensure their obtaining required supplies of hogs, and their elimination according to Mr. McInnis "should enable payment of higher prices to the producer. Reports have placed them as high as \$3 per hog in some cases."

Farmers Union of Alberta

10128 - 98th Street

Edmonton, Alberta

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EDITORIALS

THE FARMERS' PARLIAMENT

Farm Union Conventions are always important, but this year's Annual F.U.A. Convention will hold especial interest.

The Annual Convention is very important in the democratic setup of the F.U.A. because it is the governing body of the Union. The delegates who assemble there have power to amend the Constitution, to revise the policy, and to change the Executive leadership of the Union. For the five days of the Convention, the fate of the Union is entirely in the hands of the delegates. They are all-powerful while the Convention is in session.

We, who are deeply interested in the Union attach great importance to the Annual Convention. We regard it as Democracy in action. There, you will find the common people from the grass roots doing their own thinking and making their own decisions. Not always right, not always wise, but with the right to make their own decisions. That is real democracy.

This will be the first Annual Convention at which that great body of new members which came into the Union on Roundup Day, has been represented. On that account, we may expect a larger Convention, with a large sprinkling of new delegates who presumably will bring fresh minds and new viewpoints to the discussions there.

Then the conditions of near crisis which face many farmers will sharpen the proceedings at the Convention. We can expect a sense of emergency to pervade the debates. This is not the year to waste time on trivialities or side issues. This year we may expect that the big issues affecting the future of Canadian Agriculture will occupy first place in the minds of the delegates to the exclusion of lesser things.

Another point of unusual interest at the coming Convention is the question of leadership of the F.U.A. The Constitution, as it now stands, prohibits any person from holding office as President for more than five consecutive years. The present President is now completing his fifth term. Unless the Constitution is amended, a new President is certain. Who will it be? That question will add extra spice to this Convention.

And then the Resolutions. This year there are more than ever. They cover a big range of sub-

jects. There are also nine ? proposed amendments to the F.U.A. Constitution. These Resolutions show that our Locals are covering a big field of farmers' needs.

Many years ago in the heyday of the U.F.A. someone described the U.F.A. Annual Convention as the "Farmers' Parliament". With the greater and more representative membership of the F.U.A. that phrase is more descriptive than ever. The F.U.A. Annual Convention is the true "Farmers' Parliament of today". That is where the questions of real interest to farmers are debated. That is where decisions are made which sooner or later will be embodied in legislation of some kind.

Guest speakers this year will include Hon. C. D. Howe, our Minister of Trade. Don Chapman of Great Falls, President of the Montana Farmers Union, J. E. Brownlee, President of the U.G.G., C. P. Hansen, President of the Saskatchewan Farmers Union, Jake Schulz, Chairman of the Interprovincial Farm Union Council, and our own Alberta Minister of Highways, Hon. Gordon Taylor. Mr. Schulz and Mr. Howe will address the Convention on the first night, December 5th.

Altogether it will be the most important Convention ever held by the F.U.A. Every Local should be sure to be represented there. In some previous years there have been far too many Locals which did not send a delegate. Representation at the Convention serves a double purpose: first, to get farm opinion direct from the man on the land, and second, to transmit the conclusions reached to the people back at the grass roots.

In view of the present crisis, no Local can afford to be unrepresented at the coming Convention. Be sure that **your** Local has a voice there. We know that in these days of short-handed farms, it is not easy for farmers to get away for five days. However, a little co-operation among neighbors will often make it possible.

This year as usual the Convention is being held in the Auditorium of the Alberta College, Edmonton. For the five day period December 5th to 9th it will be the most important place in Alberta.

F.U.A. NEWS

The Manfred Local No. 936 held their regular meeting on November 8th. Mr. Ed Nelson, Director of District 9 was present. He gave a very interesting talk explaining parity prices, etc.

The door prize given by the Local was won by Les Abrey. There were 26 members present.

THE POT CALLS THE . . .

(From "Wainwright Star-Chronicle")

We recently inserted a "Help Wanted" advertisement in both the Edmonton Journal and the Winnipeg Free Press. The copy of these insertions was the same—but the bill from the Journal was approximately 89 percent higher than the bill from the Winnipeg Free Press. This is their own business, of course, and we cannot register any legitimate objection to the Journal charging what they like for their advertising — but . . . it does seem rather inappropriate when a newspaper which holds a monopoly which enables them to benefit in such a fashion should continually and energetically opposing proposed measures which are designed to stabilize and maintain the level of farm prices by floors or bonuses.

It is almost inconceivable that the editors of any newspaper so intimately connected with agriculture, one of our primary industries, should be unaware of the unhappy financial position into which the farmer has been placed through continually dropping prices for his produce and continually increasing costs of operation. It is also inconceivable that the editors should not be aware of the fact that the farmer is able neither to properly tailor his produce to fit the market, nor to maintain any control whatever over the prices he is to receive for his work. He is at the mercy not only of the elements, but of the involvement of world markets and competitive exporters, in a manner and to such an extent that he cannot with even reasonable certainty forecast whether he will operate at a substantial profit or at a substantial loss.

And that would not be so bad, if it were not that many other industries receive government protection in handsome measure, and measure which is far more costly to the Canadian public than any bills the government has had to foot for the payment of farm subsidies. As we have said before, every form of tariff protection and every restriction put on the import of goods from exporting countries is designed primarily to give somebody in Canada protection — and the only reason they need this protection is because they either are unable to or refuse to meet outside competition. Which simply adds up to the fact that the restrictions are simply a form of bonus eventually paid by all Canadians (including the farmers). There appears to be a bit of truth in the contention expressed by our farmer friends, that, if industry were not protected by tariffs they would be glad also to go on the open market. Let's get rid of this lopsided approach, and give the farmer the same deal that others demand — and get!

F.U.A. Broadcasts

BROADCAST No. 34

As this Broadcast reaches you the F.U.A. Jubilee Day Drive will be over in many districts. Where the job is not yet finished, I hope you will go ahead and complete the work as speedily as possible.

Certainly there never was a time when Canadian farmers needed the backing of a strong and active organization, more than they do right now. The prices of almost everything which the farmer has to sell are slipping while farm machinery prices are rising and other things which the farmer has to buy are staying right at the top.

Actually I think that the people in the towns and cities of Alberta don't realize just how critical the position of the farmer is. Unless something is done to bring farm prices and farm costs into line, many farmers are on the road to bankruptcy. Latest figures for 1955 show that Canadian farmers last year received less than 6 percent of the National Income. As a result of this today in many areas of western Canada farm debt is steadily increasing, land taxes arrears are piling up, machinery is being seized, and the position of many farmers is getting desperate.

Some people not fully informed, are inclined to blame the Wheat Board or the farmer for this situation. Some say that if the farmer could only sell all his grain, all would be well. Others say that the farmer has bought too much equipment on time and so dug the hole that he now finds himself in. Neither of these arguments gets to the root of the trouble.

In a recent Broadcast we showed that over the last four years, western farmers delivered nearly 500,000,000 bushels more wheat to elevators than in the previous four-year period. Evidently it is not lack of deliveries that is the trouble. As to whether farmers have spent money too freely, I feel there is some truth in this. There are cases where farmers have gone into debt for equipment which is much larger and more expensive than they actually needed. That has certainly added to the sum total of the farmer's problem. But it is not the basic cause. The real trouble is that farm income is too small to carry the expense of a modern type of farming. Farm income today will not pay the cost of modernization. Neither we must increase farm income or else go back to the old methods, of horse power and coal oil lamps. Modern tractors and machinery, electric power and propane gas are all very nice; they add much to the joy

of living. But the hard fact is that the income of today on the average farm will not pay for any of them.

How can that situation be improved? In my opinion, it is the responsibility of the Provincial and Federal Governments to take measures to correct the present intolerable conditions. The main responsibility is with the Federal Government which controls the trade and monetary policies of Canada. However, the Provincial authorities could do much more to help Alberta farmers. Actually their policy on rural electrification has driven a lot of farmers into debt. This is the only Province in Canada where the farmers have to bear the whole cost of rural power lines. In this Province the farmer who wants electricity has a gun held to his head. Either he signs up for another \$1200 to \$1600 or stays in the dark. Up to the end of 1954 Alberta farmers had more than \$28,000,000 invested on power lines. Much of this is borrowed money. In spite of this huge forced investment not nearly half of Alberta farmers have power. Costs are higher now and to electrify the balance another \$40,000,000 will be required. Examining the Power Companies financial statements we find that they have only about \$22,000,000 of their shareholders money invested in the power setup. On that investment they had a return of over 20 percent in 1954.

It is intolerable that this power deal should be allowed to continue in Alberta. Either the Power companies should build all the lines, or the Government should take over and use the profits of the whole system to finance the rural lines. It should not be up to the impoverished farmers of the outlying areas to go into debt so that Eastern Power Interests can continue to pile up profits at the expense of Albertans.

In the Federal field new policies are needed, within Canada all other industries price their products in relation to their costs of production. To establish farming as a decent way of life, something along this line must be done. Producer Marketing Boards would fit in here. But the Federal Government should establish a system of Parity Prices for all main agricultural products used in Canada. We, farmers, are paying a Canadian price for all the goods we buy in Canada. It is only fair that the people of Canada should pay us a Canadian price for our products used in Canada.

To get action on this principle is more important to Canadian farmers than any other thing. To induce the Government to act we must carry on an increasing campaign of education in various parts of Canada. We must intensify

(Continued on Page 13)

Patronize Your U.F.A. Co-op Local For REAL SAVINGS

Save on Building Supplies —

Make real savings on your building requirements for the fall and winter by getting them through your U.F.A. Co-op local. Available is a full line of lumber, a complete selection of plywood, Gyproc Wall Board, insulation, asbestos or cedar shingles.

Save on Paint —

The full line of Canada Paint products and brushes is available through your U.F.A. Co-op local. For that fall or winter painting program, large or small, see your local secretary about Canada Paint.

Save on Deep Freezers and Refrigerators —

Substantial savings may be made on Admiral Refrigerators and Amana Deep Freezers through your U.F.A. Co-op local. Ask your secretary about the special features of these famous names in refrigeration.

Save on Truck Hoists —

The U.F.A. Co-op Utility Hydraulic Truck Hoist, in either the $\frac{3}{4}$ ton or the $\frac{7}{8}$ ton size, can't be beaten for economy or durability. Your local secretary has full information available.

If you are interested in real savings, see the secretary of your U.F.A. Co-op Local about all your Farm Supplies.

Remember also that U.F.A. Co-op supplies Alberta farmers with top quality Maple Leaf gasolines, motor oils and greases at many points throughout the province.

IT PAYS

TO BUY FARM SUPPLIES THROUGH

U. F. A. Co-op Farm Supply Dept.

10126 - 98th Street, Edmonton.

125 - 11th Avenue E., Calgary.

BROADCASTS (Cont. from Page 11)

our pressure upon our political leaders. To do this, farmers need a strong and well-financed farm organization with active membership in each district. From a dollars and cents angle, the small membership fees of the Farmers' Union are the best investment that farmers can make for the future. So, if you have not already done, so, join the F.U.A. at once. You have a job to do and no one else can do it for you.

UNITARIAN SERVICE COMMITTEE OF CANADA

"The little ones" . . . a simple phrase, but what does it mean to you? It might call up a picture of happy children or sad children healthy youngsters or sick ones . . . but to the Unitarian Service Committee of Canada, it is much more than that. The "little ones" are the boys and girls in Europe and Asia who may still be small and young in body, but in terms of hunger, sickness and loneliness, they have lived a thousand years

The Unitarian Service Committee, a voluntary relief agency founded in 1945, is trying to help these forgotten children. Help is given regardless of creed, nationality, colour or caste,—only according to greatest human need, and because the plight of the children is the most pathetic, the USC has been concerned first and foremost with them. In 1952, in recognition of the outstanding work the USC was doing with Europe's war orphans, the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency invited Dr. Lotta Hitschmanova, Executive Director of the USC, to survey conditions in Korea.

On her return from her first visit to the war-battered little land, Dr. Hitschmanova pledged one of the most basic foods to feed Seoul's primary school-children, — powdered Canadian milk. The next year, the USC shipped \$100,000 worth of specially-processed Canadian barley for Korea's starving orphans. This spring, children in orphanages and hospitals across Korea received nourishing, protein-rich Canadian codfish through the USC's "Operation Codfish."

But the USC is not concerned with Korea alone. Children in Europe whose homes were tragically disrupted by the war, are now being cared for in USC-sponsored Homes in France, Austria, Italy and Greece. The USC conducted two "Bread for Greece Crusades", in 1952 and 1953, to send life-giving flour to mountain villagers whose crops had failed for two consecutive years. In India, the USC began its program of aid in 1953. Five jeep ambulances are today carrying doctors, nurses and medicines to re-

mote villages; in New Delhi, the USC is sponsoring a Community Centre for refugee laborers in one of the city's worst slums.

On September 12th, the USC launched its tenth annual fund-raising campaign, with an objective of \$110,000. The USC's tri-country appeal will send flour to earth-quake stricken people in Greece, and lumber to mountain villagers to help rebuild homes destroyed during 10 years of war and guerilla fighting. Sewing machines will go to widow rehabilitation centres in Korea, and financial assistance to help rebuild Korea's war-destroyed "free" schools. Two more ambulance vans have been pledged to India, and the USC will continue supporting its Qadam Sherif Community Centre in New Delhi, its rural health service in the village of Chattarpur, and a midwifery training scheme in the Khasi Hills of Assam.

Each of the USC projects overseas is operated "on a shoestring", in co-operation with reliable local agencies; administration costs at the 48 Sparks Street Ottawa headquarters are kept to the strictest minimum. Free ocean transportation and free inland transportation overseas continue to be granted for all USC relief shipments.

Under its current appeal for \$110,000, the USC offers us, the people of Canada, a channel through which we may help the most innocent victims,—"the little ones."

THREE MASTER FARM FAMILIES RECEIVE HONORS FOR 1955

Three rural Alberta families have been selected by the Department of Agriculture as Master Farm Families for 1955. This is the seventh year this program has been sponsored to demonstrate the concepts of good farming, right living and clear thinking.

Winners of the 1955 awards are:

F. E. M. ROBINSON FAMILY
Pincher Creek

B. O. BROWN FAMILY
Acme

CHRIS SCHNEIDER FAMILY
Vegreville

Each family will receive an award of \$1,000, an engraved plaque, and a Master Farm Family name plate for the farmstead entrance.

To qualify for the award, a family must be Canadian citizens nominated by at least three neighbors. They also must have owned or operated a farm for 20 consecutive years.

A.P.P.

ALBERTA POULTRY PRODUCERS

PAYS HIGHEST PRICES



WANTED Dressed Poultry

★ TURKEYS ★ CHICKENS ★ FOWL
★ DUCKS ★ GEESE

Enjoy the benefits of your producer owned Co-op. We will purchase Dressed Poultry throughout the season November 10th to December 23rd, inclusive, at the following points and locations:

1955 DRESSED TURKEY BUYS — Continuous

POINTS	PREMISES	POINTS	PREMISES	POINTS	PREMISES
Abee	Co-op Store	Egremont	E. Couturier	Strome	A.P.P.
Andrew	A.P.P.	Grande Prairie	A.P.P.	Smoky Lake	A.P.P.
Alliance	Locker Storage	Hairy Hill	Co-op Store	Therien	A. Loch
Barrhead	A.P.P.	Hay Lakes	A.P.P.	Thorhild	Co-op Store
Bonnyville	A.P.P.	Heisler	A.P.P.	Thorsby	A.P.P.
Boyle	Co-op Store	Holden	A.P.P.	Two Hills	A.P.P.
Bashaw	Locker Storage	Innisfree	A.P.P.	Vegreville	A.P.P.
Camrose	A.P.P.	Killam	A.P.P.	Vermillion	A.P.P.
Calmar	A.P.P.	Leduc	A.P.P.	Viking	A.P.P.
Calgary	A.P.P.	Lethbridge	A.P.P.	Vulcan	A.P.P.
Claresholm	A.P.P.	Mundare	A.P.P.	Warspite	J. Pilipchuk
Daysland	A.P.P.	Radway	A.P.P.	Waskateneau	Wm. Lopatka
Derwent	A.P.P.	Ryley	A.P.P.	Westlock	A.P.P.
Drumheller	A.P.P.	Sangudo	Mills Meat	Wetaskiwin	A.P.P.
Edmonton	A.P.P.	South Edmonton	A.P.P.	Willingdon	A.P.P.
		Stettler	A.P.P.		

POINTS RECEIVING LIVE
& DRESSED POULTRY FOR
SHIPPING TO OUR MAIN
PLANTS FOR GRADING:

POINTS	PREMISES
Castor	A.P.P.
Cardston	A.P.P.
Didsbury	A.P.P.
Hanna	Co-op Store
Millet	A.P.P.
St. Michael	A.P.P.
Stony Plain	A.P.P.
Blackie	A.P.P.
Three Hills	A.P.P.
Macleod	A.P.P.
Onoway	A.P.P.
Sedgewick	A.P.P.
Provost	Hinds Meat

1955 TURKEY BUYS — Daily

WATCH FOR POSTERS ANNOUNCING DATES

Cherhill
Myrnam

Legion Hall
Co-op Store

Tawatinaw
Tofield

J. Brault
A.P.P.

ALBERTA POULTRY PRODUCERS LTD.

HEAD OFFICE—EDMONTON
KILLING PLANTS AT
EDMONTON, CALGARY, LETHBRIDGE,
CAMROSE, WETASKIWIN, VEGREVILLE
LICENCE No. A-6



Farm Women's Union of Alberta

F.W.U.A. HIGHLIGHTS

Delia F.W.U.A. Local No. 1103, at their last meeting of the F.U.A. year, heard the Treasurer's report read. It was recommended that the Municipal Grant for both Village and Rural district be used towards the New Community Hall instead of a Jubilee Day celebration. Also agreed to make a donation from this F.W.U.A. local towards the hall.

* * *

It is reported by Imperial F.W.U.A. local No. 621 (Vegreville) that they are planning a Christmas Party to be held Dec. 17th. At their last meeting the new executive was elected, also delegates were chosen to attend the Annual Convention in December.

* * *

The members of Milo-Queenstown F.W.U.A. No. 1206 held a joint meeting with the F.U.A., and enjoyed greatly listening to the tape recording of Mr. J. E. Brownlee's speeches to the last two F.W.U.A. Convention in Edmonton.

* * *

Horn Hill F.W.U.A. No. 1011 (Red Deer) are having a bake sale at Eaton's in Red Deer on Dec. 1st. At their last meeting the ladies were shown a fine collection of Handicraft from the British Honduras. Also, Mrs. Stevenette read her bulletin, dealing with the A.C.W.W., and it was well received.

* * *

The ladies of Fleet F.W.U.A. No. 1104 have been making and selling signs for farmer's gates as a means of fund-raising. They have already done 27 and plan on making up to fifty altogether. Work and paint is donated by the members.

* * *

Due to the small attendance of the Black Diamond F.W.U.A. No. 1214 (Okotoks) elections were postponed until November. It was decided that the local would buy their own stainless steel spoons plus a plastic table cloth. It is hoped that an electrical study course may be held sometime in January.

* * *

At the last meeting of Stapledene F.W.U.A. No. 713 (Lloydminster) it was agreed that the Bulletins on "Health" and "Provincial Legislation", of particular interest to farm people, were the most interesting.

Ghost Pine F.W.U.A. No. 1024 (Three Hills) have decided to put on a social evening of local talent and a play on Nov. 18, at Lymni Church basement, to raise funds to send a delegate to the Annual Convention.

* * *

Plans have been made by Wild Rose F.W.U.A. No. 1108 (Carolside) for a bean supper and bazaar to raise funds for the local.

* * *

The Utopia F.W.U.A. Local No. 1210 (Twin Butte) report very active and interesting undertakings in their local, in spite of the harvest rush, and a nice profit was realized from the booth operated by the local at the Pincher Creek fair. Profit from their joint picnic is to be donated to the Building Fund.

* * *

Jubilee F.W.U.A. Local No. 1310 report that it has been decided to cancel the supper and dance on Nov. 10th and to hold a supper on the 26th of Nov. instead.

* * *

The members of the Nanton F.W.U.A. No. 1207 were entertained by a graphic account by their President of her trip to Oakville, Ontario, and return via United States. She attended the 175 year anniversary in New Hampshire. Also, slides were shown of Farm Young People's Week at Edmonton, and also Banff School of Fine Arts.

* * *

A number of fund-raising activities have been undertaken recently by the Jenny Lind F.W.U.A. No. 1305 (Scandia), for C.N.I.B., etc. A Christmas Cake is to be made and raffled at a banquet to be held in December.

* * *

Durness F.W.U.A. Local No. 712 (Lloydminster) are planning a bake sale to raise funds to send a delegate to the annual convention.

* * *

Royce F.W.U.A. No. 203 have donated the sum of \$15.00 to the School for the purpose of buying play and sports equipment. Suggestions for future activities were a Box-Social, Tea in Town and a Card Party.

* * *

After reading and discussing the bulletin on Mental Health it was resolved, by the St. Albert F.W.U.A. Local No. 502, that the government be asked to set up a fact-finding committee to explore the possibility of placing

mental patients in foster homes. A donation is being made to the fund to send a delegate to the A.C.W.W. Tri-ennial Conference next year.

* * *

At the annual meeting of Jefferson F.W.U.A. No. 1401 (Owendale) all officers were returned to office. Ten dollars was voted for the Building Fund and sent to H.Q. The Bulletin on the "Associated Country Women of the World" was read and a delegate chosen to attend the Annual Convention in Edmonton.

* * *

The ladies of Pollockville F.W.U.A. No. 1106 find it difficult to decide which bulletin is most interesting but all agree on the general high quality of the material covered.

* * *

Clover Bar Local No. 602 F.W.U.A. at their last meeting report the reading and full discussion of the bulletin on Legislation. They have completed their Scrap-Book on Alberta and believe a very good job was made of the compilation of it. Plans were made for holding a jubilee social evening and a committee chosen to make arrangements.

ANTIQUE SHOW

The High Prairie FWUA held a very interesting and successful antique show on October 26th in the Elks Hall.

About 300 persons attended and enjoyed the varied show.

Some of the most interesting articles on display were silver brought by scow up the Lesser Slave Lake in 1903, originally owned by a local resident's great grandmother; a hand carved rolling pin, used in the same family for over 300 years; a collection of arrowheads and stone axes; and Indian game "Ghostkeeper" given to a member by his grandmother, an old account book from a store in High Prairie dating back to 1906 provided a good deal of fun, many old timers looked up their long forgotten purchases and discussed the "old days". while the younger people discussed the prices then and now; of great interest to the many friends of the late Nurse Bone, was a beautiful gold clock presented her in 1913 by Alan McDonald in Ireland; a spinning wheel made in Norway in 1851 was demonstrated; an old snuff box over 200 years old and many articles of brass and copper were displayed as well as old china, glass silver and wood carving. Old newspapers were read and music was provided throughout the afternoon from three old gramophones playing old time music and an old player piano brought across Lesser Slave Lake in a covered sleigh in 1906.

Coffee and donuts were sold during the afternoon by the ladies.

REPORT ON FARM FORUM WORKSHOP

By Mable Rasumson

The Farm Forum Workshop, October 24-28, at the Banff School of Fine Arts, was held to acquaint various key people in a community with the idea of using Farm Forum as a tool for adult education amongst rural people. It was felt that a program such as farm forum brought forth opinions of individuals; later there would be opinion plus fact and selection of facts, and then perhaps research through books and pamphlets. This would be followed by judgment. This generally would give group training in hunting for many possible answers to a problem, rather than a flash individual opinion.

During the course we were given the history of Farm Forum. We clarified various words connected with Farm Forum. We went into the theory, authority and business, long, short and immediate objectives, the various blocks encountered in starting forums and the mechanics involved.

There were 27 in attendance—4 from Manitoba, 4 from Saskatchewan, 2 from B.C. and the remainder Albertans. The group consisted of provincial secretaries, district agriculturists or representatives, University Extension men, Wheat Pool fieldmen, Alberta Co-op Union men, housewives and Farm Forum personnel.

The evenings were spent in observing a Farm Forum group consisting of the Rural Leadership group react to the idea of Farm Forum, evaluation of the day's activities, roll playing, judging a movie with each group giving its opinion of it. Needless to say, each group gave a different solution.

Each day's session was carried on as though it were a general meeting, with chairman, secretary, news reporter and fieldmen. Duties fell each day to different members of the group.

The course was an interesting one with one session lasting till 11:30 p.m. The value of ideas exchanged among the members of the group will be invaluable dealing with either Farm Forum or Farm Unions.

WEDDING NEWS

We know you will all be pleased to hear of the wedding of Miss Jess Adam, recent visitor from Scotland, to Mr. John Paterson. The couple were married on Tuesday, October 18th at the Ladywell Church, Bannockburn. They live on a farm about 12 miles from the Adam Farm. We wish them a very happy married life.

ALBERTA FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

COMMODITY SECTIONS	DIRECTORS
1. These three Sections represent the Farmers' Union of Alberta.	1. Mrs. C. T. Armstrong
2. This Section represents Sugar Beet Growers	2. Mrs. Mildred Redman
3. This Section represents Grain Producers	3. Mr. C. Stimpfle
4. This Section represents Dairy Producers	4. Mr. R. H. Dahl
5. This Section represents Poultry Producers	5. Mr. Ben S. Plumer
6. This Section represents Hog Producers	6. Mr. Roy C. Marler
7. This Section represents Seed Growers and Beekeepers	7. Mr. Karl V. Kapler
8. This Section represents Farm Supplies	8. Mr. Hugh Allen
9. This Section represents Sheep and Wool	9. Mr. C. Antonson
10. This Section represents Cattle	10. Mr. George Church
	11. Mr. L. R. Jensen
	12. Mr. C. J. Anderson

How is the Alberta Federation of Agriculture set up? How does it function? It is composed of twelve directors. Each director is elected annually for a term of one year.

How are they elected? Who elects them? Prior to the Annual Meeting held each the F.U.A. Board, usually at its first Board Meeting following the F.U.A. Convention, elects three (one of whom is a lady) from its Board of Directors to represent the F.U.A. on the Federation Board. There are nine commodity sections covering especially the major products produced on the farms of Alberta, and the F.U.A. section makes ten divisional sections of the responsibilities pertaining to the directors of the A.F.A. Provision is made at a determined time during the Annual Meeting for these nine commodity sections to meet separately for the purpose of electing a director to represent each of these nine respective sections.

Who votes at Annual Meetings? Accredited delegates and directors vote.

The new directorate takes charge following the Annual Meeting. An organizational meeting of the Board is held at or shortly after the Annual Meeting. At this meeting of the new Board the officers are appointed from, and by, the Board as follows: (a) President, and two Vice-Presidents. These three and the Secretary constitute the Executive. (b) Three directors are nominated to the Board of the C.F.A. to represent the A.F.A. on The Canadian Federation of Agriculture Board. (c) Six delegates are chosen to attend the Western Conference, which is held between the Annual Meetings of the A.F.A. and the C.F.A. for the purpose of consolidating Western opinion prior to the Annual Meeting of the C.F.A. The Western Conference is merely a Western section of the C.F.A. representing the four Western provinces.

Those entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting of the A.F.A. are the delegates who are sent to the Annual Meeting from the representative member groups. They are appointed on the following basis: any member organization with a membership of 500 is entitled to one delegate; member organizations with over 500 and less than 1,500 members are entitled to two voting delegates; member organizations with membership between 1,500 and 2,500 have three voting delegates; member organizations with membership between 2,500 and 3,500 have four delegates; those organizations with over 3,500 membership are entitled to send five delegates. Each member organization, then, is entitled to one delegate. No organization, regardless of its size, is entitled to more than five delegates. This ensures that no organization, regardless of its size, can dominate the voting in Annual Meetings of the Alberta Federation of Agriculture.

Following the Annual Meeting of the A.F.A., which is held after all of the other 54 member bodies have held their annual meetings, the A.F.A. presents matters of a provincial nature to provincial authorities. Matters of an interprovincial nature may be settled either at the Western Conference and directed from there to proper sources, or referred on to the Annual Meeting of The Canadian Federation of Agriculture. Questions and issues of a purely national nature are taken from the Western Conference to the C.F.A. Annual Meeting and, from there, on to federal authorities by the The Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

Through the membership of the primary organization, F.U.A., along with the specialized commodity groups covering all major products produced in Alberta, the A.F.A. is in the unique position to take with it, when waiting upon provincial or federal governments or other authorities, persons who are better acquainted with and have a better knowledge of the production and marketing of any single agricultural product than it is possible for any of the representatives of governments to possess. This provides a very efficient and effective way for agricultural people to accept their responsibility and perform their function as citizens in the national life of this province and nation.

OCTOBER 1955 MEMBERSHIP RECORD

District	Oct. Men	To Date Men	Oct. Women	To Date Women	Oct. Assoc.	To Date Assoc.	Oct. Jrs.	To Date Jrs.	Oct. Total	To Date Total
B.C. BLOCK	---	530	---	183	---	---	---	126	---	839
DISTRICT 1	2	2099	---	795	---	---	---	446	2	3340
DISTRICT 2	---	2680	---	990	---	---	---	655	---	4325
DISTRICT 3	---	2650	---	927	---	3	---	675	---	4255
DISTRICT 4	2	3519	---	1372	---	---	---	1096	2	5987
DISTRICT 5	---	2771	---	988	---	---	---	701	---	4460
DISTRICT 6	1	4532	1	2156	---	7	---	1393	2	8088
DISTRICT 7	---	3713	1	1331	---	1	---	774	1	5809
DISTRICT 8	---	2986	---	1053	---	2	---	553	---	4594
DISTRICT 9	1	3575	1	1188	---	4	---	705	2	5472
DISTRICT 10	---	3644	1	942	---	17	---	434	1	5037
DISTRICT 11	15	1683	6	674	---	11	2	266	23	2634
DISTRICT 12	1	2226	1	980	---	8	---	360	2	3574
DISTRICT 13	---	880	2	330	---	1	---	151	2	1362
DISTRICT 14	23	1638	---	655	---	1	---	375	23	2669
TOTAL	45	39126	13	14554	---	55	2	8710	59	62445

BUILDING FUND DONATIONS

Previously acknowledged	\$39,926.38
Sub-Dist. No. 2, Dist. 12	13.00
District No. 9	200.00
Rosyth FWUA No. 709	20.00
Mike Oleskiw, Mackay	4.00
Mirror FUA No. 976 (Bricks)	20.00
Sub-Dist. 2, Dist. 6	14.93
Imperial FUA No. 626	25.00
Moose Mountain FUA No. 1056	10.00
Mayerthorpe F.U.A. No. 523	50.00
Westlock FWUA No. 308	50.00
Jefferson FWUA No. 1401	10.00
Myroslaw FUA No. 605A	8.00
Green Grove FUA No. 816	4.00
Beach Corner FUA No. 505	10.00
Hayseed Jr. FUA No. 701	61.50
Spring Valley FUA No. 964	39.00
Bowden FUA No. 1033	6.84
TOTAL	\$40,472.65

THE INSURANCE DOLLAR

What happens to a dollar paid in insurance premiums? For most kinds of insurance except life, about 50 cents is paid out in claims. The other 50 cents goes for operating expenses, salesmen's commissions, reserves, etc.

Detailed figures for 1954 are now at hand.

Fire insurance: The board companies paid out in claims 50.12 percent of the premiums they earned during the year. (The high in the last five years was 1950, with 58 percent, and the low 1944, with 44.86 percent.) The non-board companies paid out in claims 49.01 percent of their earned premiums. The board companies earned \$88,043,000 in premiums, the non-board companies \$56,365,000. Board claims were down some two points from 1953, non-board claims up about 5 points.

Automobile insurance: The board companies paid out in claims 53 percent of their \$78,369,000 earned premiums, and the non-board companies 50.99 percent of their \$95,591,000

earned premiums. Both percentages are down three to four points from 1953.

Public liability: Net premiums earned by all companies were \$14,420,000, of which 48.99 percent was paid out in claims.

Theft: 53:33 percent of the \$4,578,000 earned premiums paid out in claims.

Personal Accident: Net premiums earned \$8,413,000; ratio of net losses or claims 50.45 percent.

Plate glass: 53.61 percent of the \$1,689,000 net premiums earned was paid out in net claims.

Windstorm: Net premiums earned, \$267,000; ratio of net losses, 56.47 percent.

Employers' liability: \$3,744,000 and 38.71 percent.

Surety: \$3,229,000 and 21.24 percent.

Earthquake: \$68,000 and nil.

Sickness: \$9,366,000 and 42.53 percent.

Accident and Sickness: \$83,355,000 and 75.78 percent.

Forgery: \$75,169 and 46.25 percent.

Inland Transportation: \$6,299,000 and 58.53 percent.

Sickness and accident insurance seems to be the fastest-growing of the lot. With \$92,721,000 in earned premiums, it stood at 65 percent of the total money spent on fire insurance and 53 percent of what was spent on auto insurance.

Whereas most other types of insurance paid out in claims about half of what they took in, the accident and sickness policies paid out about three-quarters.

The explanation would probably be that most of the accident and sickness insurance is written by large companies for employers with large staffs. The sales expense is greatly reduced, there is little collection cost, and the employer does a good deal of the book work which in direct individual policies would have to be borne by the company.

—Calgary Albertan

REGISTRATION OF INTERESTS IN LAND

By A. M. Brownlee

It is surprising how many times in the course of a year we encounter problems which arise from the failure of persons who have acquired interests in land to register the necessary documents in the Land Titles Office in order to protect such interests. This may be partly due to the fact that persons prepare "home made" documents without having sought proper advice. In some cases, on the other hand, it is simply a matter of putting off until tomorrow what should be done today. No matter what the cause, the result can be very serious and costly.

Under our Land Titles Act we have two Land Registration Districts, — one comprising all that part of the Province north of the ninth correction line, and the other comprising land lying south of that line. In each of these Registration Districts there is a Land Titles Office, — one in Edmonton and one in Calgary. The Land Titles Act provides that when persons acquire interests in land they can register documents in the proper Land Titles Office so that no one else can deal with the particular land in such a way as to interfere with any such interests which have been acquired. The cost of registering the necessary documents is trifling when compared to the protection that this procedure affords.

Any person proposing to acquire any interest in a parcel of land should first search the title to that parcel to make sure that the present owner is legally able to convey the particular interest, as it sometimes happens that the so-called "owner" never did obtain a proper title. We would illustrate this point by referring to a case we had to deal with some time ago. Mr. Jones agreed to sell a quarter section to Mr. Smith, and Mr. Smith paid the purchase price. Later, when the parties decided that the title should be transferred it was found that the title to the property was registered in the Land Titles Office in the name of Mr. Brown, from whom Mr. Jones had purchased the land many years previously. For some reason Mr. Jones had never obtained a transfer of title from Mr. Brown, and Mr. Brown had since disappeared. Eventually, we were able to prove to the satisfaction of the Courts that Jones had paid the full purchase price, and an Order was granted by the Court cancelling Brown's title and instructing the Registrar of the Land Titles Office to issue a new title in favour of Jones. While this particular problem was cleared up,

it is quite possible that in other cases much greater difficulties might be encountered.

Any person purchasing land in a cash transaction should make sure that before he turns the purchase price over to the vendor, title to the land has been registered in his name. This is customarily done by having the purchase price deposited in trust until the registration is complete.

In connection with farm lands, it is more often the case that the purchase price is paid in instalments over a period of years and consequently the purchaser is given an Agreement of Sale. The title remains registered in the name of the vendor until the full purchase price has been paid. In such transactions it is very important that the purchaser should obtain a properly drawn Agreement and should have a Caveat filed in the proper Land Titles Office. The Caveat is a document which simply gives notice to the public of the fact that the purchaser has acquired an interest in the land under an Agreement for Sale. It is not difficult to imagine what might happen if a Caveat was not filed and if the vendor should decide to be dishonest. The vendor could take money from another purchaser and give such person a transfer which could be registered so as to convey title to this new purchaser; and provided that the new purchaser had no knowledge of the previous Agreement of Sale, the land could not be taken away from him. Over a period of years we have seen many instances where a purchaser who has paid a part of the purchase price has obtained from the vendor nothing more than a receipt for the down payment, or a very poorly drawn document, and in many of these instances it has never occurred to the purchaser to file a Caveat in the Land Titles Office. This procedure is, to say the least, a very dangerous practice.

Purchasers of land are not the only persons who should register their interests. A tenant of land who holds a Lease for more than three years should either register the Lease itself or a Caveat stating that he holds a Lease. If he does not do so and if the registered owner should disregard his tenant's rights and make a sale, so long as the purchaser was not aware of the existence of a Lease he may very well be in a position to dispossess the tenant. Finally, the importance of a properly drawn document cannot be too strongly emphasized when consideration is given to the provisions under the Dower Act, which gives a life interest in a homestead to the spouse of the registered owner. Before a sale, lease, mortgage or other disposition of this homestead land can be given by the registered owner, the consent in writing of the spouse must be obtained, and a Commission-

er for Oaths must certify that such consent was given by the spouse freely and without any compulsion. If this is not done in the manner prescribed by the Dower Act, the sale or other disposition is completely invalid.

Nowhere in the field of law is the old adage about an ounce of prevention more clearly applicable than in dealings with land, and any man or woman who neglects to transact business carefully because of expense or inconvenience may well be put to much greater expense and inconvenience at a later time.

SELLING PRICE OF LOW GRADE WHEAT REDUCED

The Canadian Wheat Board has again reduced the price of low grade wheat and during the past week five and six wheat have been reduced five cents a bushel and feed wheat seven cents a bushel. This brings down to \$1.30½, \$1.24½ and \$1.19½ which compares with the asking prices a year ago of \$1.51 and \$1.48. At the same time Two Northern wheat is trading at four cents higher than on the same date a year ago. This reduction in price brings these grades of wheat into a more realistic relationship with feed grains and it is hoped that substantial sales may be made so that quantities of these grades in eastern positions and at the lakehead may move rapidly out of the visible supplies. Currently these stocks represent 16 million bushels.

FARM UNION QUIZ

Question: What is the F.U.A.?

Answer: The Farmers' Union of Alberta.

Question: What is it for?

Answer: To protect the farmers interests.

Question: What is it doing?

Answer: Working for a fair deal for Agriculture.

Question: Who is against the F.U.A.?

Answer: Every "big interest" in Alberta.

Question: Who is backing the F.U.A.?

Answer: 62,500 Alberta farmer members.

Question: Do farmers need organization?

Answer: They cannot help themselves without it.

Question: Whose business is this?

Answer: Every farmer's business.

Question: What should I do to help?

Answer: Join the F.U.A. and take full part in it.

Question: Why should all farmers belong to the Union?

Answer: Because the Union works for all.

U.S. COMPETITION

While making his statement in connection with the final payment of 1953-54 Canadian wheat deliveries, Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Canada's minister of trade and commerce, had some strong words to say about United States tactics in disposing of its huge surplus on world markets. He said the Wheat Board and the Canadian government expect and are fully prepared to deal with competition in world wheat markets but added that in recent months surplus disposal programs of the United States were being pressed to the point where they are having a disturbing affect on commercial markets. He mentioned the triple-barrelled disposal program and said that the cost of procurement of wheat in the United States for disposal abroad had amounted to over \$200 million.

Included in the colossal U.S. scheme is provision for the Commodity Credit Corporation the farm price support agency, to spend up to \$700 million in order to move surplus farm commodities into foreign countries for local currencies. Another \$300 million is available to furnish agricultural commodities to relieve famine and other emergencies. A billion dollars is thus available extending over a three-year period. The CCC may also barter surplus commodities for strategic materials and for goods and equipment required for economic and military aid to other countries.

It was recently announced that in the past 10 months deals have been made to export \$750 million worth of agricultural surpluses. Some \$290 million worth has been sold for foreign currencies, \$80 million worth has been given away and \$211 million disposed of by barter. Wheat has been a major item in these deals, some \$59 million worth having been sold, \$75 million worth bartered and \$48 million worth given away.

Furthermore, on ordinary sales in world markets wheat is being bonused at the rate of about 80 cents a bushel.

Provision is also made under another act to provide up to \$350 million worth for the disposal of surplus commodities for local currencies as economic aid to needy countries. The bulk of this will likely be used by July.

A stipulation was made by the United States government that the assistance and disposal programs must not unduly disturb world prices or interfere with normal markets of friendly countries. However, last week George McIvor, chairman of the Canadian Wheat Board, contended before the agricultural committee of

the House of Commons that certain Canadian markets were being adversely affected. He said the U.S. appears determined to rid itself of wheat surpluses through its "give away" deals and added that Canada could not possibly hope to compete in that field. Protests have been made to Washington that American schemes were infringing on Canadian markets but so far complaints have brought nothing by way of substantial results.

—Wheat Pool Budget, June 3, 1955

WHAT MOTHERWELL SAID IN 1938

The following statement made in the House of Commons by Hon. W. R. Motherwell, former Minister of Agriculture seems to be as true today as when uttered.

"Have you ever noticed how prompt governments are to act when they want to hold down farm prices. Without any prodding, without any goad being used, they jump to keep prices down. That is what happened in connection with the wheat at that time, 1916, 1917 and 1918. When you want governments to hold up prices even a wee bit, when you want them to give you a wheat board, how reluctant they are to act! Reluctant is hardly the word to use; how determined they are not to do it! We hear a lot about the hardships of the farmers and the beneficence of governments in the matter of relief seed, etc. That will not do for me. I will not sell my independence even though my neighbors are fed. It may be all right to keep them alive like you would an ox so that you can get some work out of them, but that is not Christianity, it is not even decent."

PRIVATE TRADE NOT REPRESENTED

A shuffle of the Canadian Wheat Board's advisory committee, recently has left the group without private trade representation.

The former 11 man committee which consisted of six farm representatives and five grain trade members, has been reduced to six.

Present membership is confined to farm group leaders including: W. J. Parker, president of Manitoba Pool Elevators; J. H. Wesson, president of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool; Ben Plumer, president of the Alberta Wheat Pool; J. E. Brownlee, president of the United Grain Growers; C. P. Hansen, president of the Saskatchewan Farmers' Union, and Roy Marler, president of the Alberta Federation of Agriculture.

—Free Press Prairie Farmer, August 17

TVA PAYS OFF BONDED DEBT

KNOXVILLE Tenn. — The Tennessee Valley Authority paid off its out-standing bonded indebtedness 14 years ahead of schedule.

The authority turned over to the U. S. Treasury \$14 million, redeeming bonds due in 1963 and 1969 and completing payment on a \$65 million bond issue floated in 1938-39.

With the bond redemption total TVA payments to the Treasury from power revenue amount to \$165 million. Additional payments for the current fiscal year will bring the total to \$210 million or well over half of the total power investment in the 20 dams in the TVA system.—AFL NEWS REPORTER.

C.P.R. HALF-YEAR EARNINGS UP

MONTREAL (CP) — Canadian Pacific Railway passed the halfway mark of 1955 with net earnings of \$12,613,703, an increase of better than \$4,000,000 from the first-six months of 1954, according to company reports.

Gross earnings for the six months ended June 30 last bounced up almost \$9,000,000 to \$215,198,420 while working expenses climbed less than \$5,000,000 to \$202,584,713 compared with last year's first half.

Up to June 30, 1954, the company showed net earnings of \$8,554,092.

For the month of June, net earnings were \$3,033,446 compared with \$1,890,904 in June last year.

—Edmonton Journal, July 29

MARKETING CONTROL

F. R. Carpenter of Hayden, Colorado, in an address to the Western Stockgrowers' Association a short time ago, said in part:

"For 300 years cattlemen have been willing to sell their live cattle and say in effect, it's no concern of ours what the beef sells for over the counter. Now for the first time in history, cattlemen are realizing that the price over the counter directly affects him and he should take a hand in controlling it.

"By that I mean that he must retain an interest and have some control of his products all the way down the line to the consumers' tables. The oil industry is an example of this model. They are organized vertically so that they control the oil from the well to the filling station. The beef industry still retains the horizontal type of organization with only token contact between the various layers that handle beef from the stockyard to the counter.

"The future demands that a successful cattleman not only keep abreast of scientific research, but that he also extend his concern over his product after it leaves his hands until it reaches the consumer."

Free Enterprise

By Jerry Voorhis

We have to be clear as to what "private enterprise", in its true American sense, really is. First, it's enterprise into which every family, or almost every family, can hope to enter. Second, it's enterprise that is locally owned in local communities, whether these communities are towns or big cities. Third, it's enterprise in which lots and lots of people have ownership and over which lots and lots of people exercise effective control.

Now let's see what private enterprise is not. It is not business that is so big that it exercises the powers of a state. If a business is so big that it can fix prices in its industry, or regulate production, or keep out effective competition, or obtain capital without having to bid for it in the open market—then that business is not private enterprise but a monopoly of economic power. And no nation can continue either free or democratic if any body or any business or any agency in it exercises monopolistic economic power. Only the whole of the people acting together should ever be allowed to do that.

That is why we have publicly owned water supplies. It's why some of us have tried to inject publicly and co-operatively owned yardsticks into the power business. It's why our highways are publicly owned. Because if any private business owns all the water or all the power or all the highways in an area, it can kill off private enterprise and even private living in that area any time it wants to.

Actually, a true co-operative enterprise is the purest form of genuine private enterprise there is. For anyone can become a shareholder in a co-operative business. Most of the people who do so are people who wouldn't become owners of business in any other way. And the more co-operative business there is, the less likelihood there is of monopolies developing and creating situations where public ownership will be called for.

In this connection, consumer co-operatives come especially strongly into consideration, because consumer co-operatives organize the buying power of the people, either as consumers or as independent producers. And this gives to the people generally—through voluntary association—a strength sufficient to stand up to private monopolies and successfully challenge their otherwise unchallenged powers.

Co-operatives, if strong enough, can, without reliance on government, take from monopolies the powers of a state which they otherwise exercise.

GLOOMY PROPHETS ARE ASTOUNDED

Canada has not lost its traditional market for wheat in Great Britain. In fact it has done extremely well, in the face of high production throughout the wheat-producing world, to hold 33 percent of the world market and 64 percent of the British market.

Great Britain has been importing 75 percent more wheat this year than in the corresponding period January-July last year. Its own wheat acreage has been reduced but unfortunately for the Canadian farmer there have been record yields to offset the reduction.

Of course the West is suffering from its own prolific productivity. The old adage about "making two blades of grass grow where only one grew before" is coming true to astound the gloomy prophets. Given sufficient incentive farmers can do some wonderful things today.

The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations estimated recently that the free world now grows 25 percent more food than it did during the period 1946-47. It produces 20 percent more rice, milk and cotton; 30 percent more wheat, meat and fats; 50 percent more sugar; and it catches 20 percent more fish.

This causes several serious problems for food-surplus countries like Canada. Yet if it were not for the dollar shortage of Europe plus fear of future war, Canada could dispose of more food products in that heavily-populated market.

Great Britain, for instance, gives its own farmers powerful protection against imports. Those farmers have become wealthy on government subsidies and quota protection. Yet they can feed only half the population.

Given the dollars to spend, Britain would concentrate its own farm industry on perishable foods. It cannot grow good milling wheat though its yields are high. Home-produced soft wheat has to be mixed with Canadian hard wheat for milling. If therefore Britain grew on its fertile soil such things as green vegetables, fruits, dairy produce and high-quality meats, it would buy other foods including wheat from Canada.

Canadian farmers are at present angry with the U.S.A. for stealing a march on the wheat market with give-away dollars. Perhaps Canada should consider another trade agreement with Britain at this stage for industrial development here by British firms, plus exchange of goods.

—The Albertan, Oct. 6/55

Canada has about one person for every 247 acres of land. The United Kingdom has only 1.2 acres per person and Japan 1.1. Only 2.3 percent of Canada's area is arable, 13.8 percent of Japan's and 30 percent of the United Kingdom's.

49th Year Successful For U.G.G.



FARMER OWNED CO-OPERATIVE IN STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION

United Grain Growers Limited, as the result of successful operations for the past year has provided for the following distribution to Shareholder-Members and Customers:

Patronage Dividend	\$675,000
Class "A" Share Dividend	226,040
Class "B" Share Dividend (Appropriation)	14,373
Total	\$915,413
 Total share capital of the Company at July 31st, 1955	 \$ 4,804,820
Total shareholders' equity, including reserves and surplus	\$ 9,815,305
Investment in country and terminal properties etc	\$25,070,731
Working capital	\$ 6,939,429

TOTAL DISTRIBUTION PAID TO SHAREHOLDERS AND
CUSTOMERS SINCE THE COMPANY'S FORMATION
NOW AMOUNTS TO \$15,402,704.

United Grain Growers Ltd.

Add Your Strength To This Farmer Owned Company and Share In The
Benefits of Co-operation

DID YOU KNOW?

Corporation profits have again increased during the the past year. Some of them have reached unprecedented figures. Users of the goods and services provided by this type of business have been called upon to pay, not only the entire cost of operations, but an increased private bonus to investors.

Members of co-operatives have no such levies to meet. Co-operatives supply goods and services at cost by returning any surplus that accumulates to their patrons.

With a declining agricultural income farmers cannot afford to ignore the savings offered by their co-ops. During the last 30 years the Alberta Wheat Pool has returned over \$18,000,000 to its members in patronage dividends and has made "service" its motto.

IT PAYS TO PATRONIZE THE POOL

